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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information

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EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 31 July to 12 August 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

20 August 1953

REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 31 July 1953, a shipment of 10 boxcars and an undetermined number of flatcars, carrying 20 trucks and 18 x 37-mm AA guns, was observed in Wismar.¹

2. At about 9 p.m. on 5 August, a shipment of 21 boxcars and 25 flatcars with sideracks carrying 37-mm AA guns was seen passing through Teterow, coming from the direction of Guestrow and proceeding toward Neubrandenburg. Between 3 and 10 August, freight traffic as well as passenger traffic was normal; no other troop trains were observed.

3. Between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 12 August, about 360 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia were loaded on 13 converted boxcars; ammunition was loaded on 1 boxcar; and 18 trucks, 3 trailers, 16 prime movers, 6 gun barrel trailers and 6 gun motor carriages of 103-mm howitzers; and a 152-mm howitzer were loaded on 29 flatcars at the Brandenburg-Altstadt railroad station. The unit had come from the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne and left toward Altengrabow.

No military shipments were observed from 9 to 11 August.²

4. At about 9:30 a.m. on 12 August, 6 x 203-mm howitzers, 3 x 152-mm howitzers, 18 prime movers, 10 trucks, 2 jeeps, 2 field kitchens, 6 trailers and 80 to 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia were loaded on a train, which included 12 boxcars, at the Brandenburg-Altstadt railroad station. The unit, which had come from the Artillerie Kaserne and was escorted by 2 lieutenant colonels, 4 majors and 12 to 15 officers from lieutenants up to and including captains, left toward Altengrabow.

5. On 5 August, 2 light and 10 medium SP guns, 5 trucks and about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained in Haldensleben.

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6. Between 6 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 12 August, 20 T-34/85 tanks, 8 SU-152 guns, the turrets of which mounted an undetermined device; 17 trucks and about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and tank insignia were entrained in Templin. [redacted]

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[redacted] Troops escorting the shipment stated that they went toward the Oder River.⁵

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1. [redacted] Comment. Possibly a shipment to or from Wustrow.

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2. [redacted] Comment. Presumably a shipment, which, on 5 August, went from Neubukow to Fuerstenwalde [redacted] and probably carried units of the 63d AAA Div.

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3. [redacted] Comment. It is rather safely believed that two batteries of the 124th Hvy How Arty Brig (US) which, according to reports on transportation, went to Altengrabow [redacted]

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4. [redacted] Comment. According to reports on transportation, probably the train [redacted] which is fairly definitely believed to have carried units of the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which returned from Haldensleben to Eisenach.

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5. [redacted] Comment. Possibly entraining of units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div which, according to reports on transportation, transferred to Kaulsdorf [redacted] and probably were to relieve the elements of the division which left Kaulsdorf on 7 and 8 August.

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